

# SENATORS AND OFFICERS POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

Date/Time Stamp:

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This disclosure, along with a copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and all attachments, MUST be provided to the Office of Public Records, Room 232 of the Hart Building, within 30 days after the travel is completed.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I Shelley Moore Capito, make the following  
(Name of Senator/Officer)

disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me.

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Travel date(s): August 13-20, 2017

Destination(s): Israel

Name of accompanying family member (if any): Shelley Capito Macleod

Relationship to Member/Officer: ☐ Spouse ☒ Child

FILL IN THE APPROPRIATE LINES. IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

## Expenses for Senator/Officer:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount	\$7,439.38	\$1,260	\$920.58	\$5,121.97 (Breakdown attached)

## Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable)

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount	\$5,984.28	\$1,260	\$920.58	\$5,121.97 (breakdown attached)

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): Itinerary Attached

I HAVE MADE A DETERMINATION THAT THE TRAVEL DESCRIBED ABOVE WAS IN CONNECTION WITH MY DUTIES AS AN OFFICEHOLDER, AND DID NOT CREATE THE APPEARANCE THAT I WAS USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PRIVATE GAIN.

9/18/17

(Date)

Shelley Moore Capito

(Signature of Senator/Officer)



**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
August 13 - 20, 2017**

**Final Itinerary**

**Sunday, August 13, 2017**

5:00 PM DELTA #3694 departs Washington, DC (Joel Brubaker)

6:28 PM DELTA #3694 arrives New York/JFK (Joel Brubaker)

10:37 PM DELTA #468 departs New York/JFK (Senator, Senator's daughter,  
Joel Brubaker)

**Monday, August 14, 2017**

4:00 PM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport  
Transfer to Jerusalem  
Check into the King David Hotel

7:15 PM Depart hotel

7:30-8:00 PM *Welcome and Orientation*  
- at Angelica

8:00-9:30 PM *The Jewish Connection to the Land of Israel*  
Dinner with Rabbi Dr. Daniel Gordis  
Senior Vice President, Shalem College  
- at Angelica

9:30-10:00 PM *Welcome to Jerusalem*  
Walking survey of the Old City

10:15 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Tuesday, August 15, 2017**

8:15 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:45 AM Depart hotel

9:15 AM-12:30 PM     *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem - Part I: The Historic and Holy Basin*  
 Guided Survey of the Old City of Jerusalem

- City of David
- Church of the Holy Sepulcher
- Western Wall

12:30 PM                Depart

12:45-2:00 PM         *Fifty Years Since the Six-Day War*  
 Lunch with Yossi Klein Halevi  
 Senior Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute  
 - at Anna

2:00 PM                Depart for Yad Vashem

2:30-5:00 PM         *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*  
 Wreath laying ceremony and guided survey  
 - at Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

5:00 PM                Return to hotel

7:00 PM                Depart for dinner

7:15-9:15 PM         *Cyber: The Frontier of Security*  
 Dinner with

- Prof. Bracha Shapira, Chair, Software and Information Systems  
 Engineering Department, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
- Karine Ben Simhon, Director of External Relations,  
 Cyber Emergency Response Team

- at Touro

9:15 PM                Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Wednesday, August 16, 2017**

8:45 AM                Breakfast is served  
 - at the hotel, Olive Room

9:15-10:15 AM        *A View from the Ambassador's Office*  
 Breakfast with the Honorable David Friedman, U.S. Ambassador to Israel  
 - at the hotel, Olive Room

10:15-11:15 AM	<i>Is War in Syria Winding Down?</i> Coffee with Dr. Jonathan Spyer Director, Rubin Center, Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya - at the hotel, Oak Room
11:15 AM-12:15 PM	<i>Water and Energy</i> Meeting with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shaul Meridor, Director General, Ministry of National Infrastructures, Energy and Water Resources</li> <li>▪ Danny Lacker, Head, Water Security and Emergency Division, Israeli Water Authority</li> </ul> - at the hotel, Oak Room
12:45 PM	Depart hotel
1:15-2:30 PM	<i>The State of Israeli-Palestinian Authority Relations</i> Lunch with Dr. Tal Becker Principal Deputy Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs - at Caffit
2:30 PM	Depart for Tel Aviv
3:45-5:00 PM	<i>View of the Palestinian Street</i> Dinner with Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Michael Herzog Senior Fellow, The Washington Institute - at Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel
5:00 PM	Check into the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel
7:00 PM	Depart for dinner
7:30-9:30 PM	<i>Start-Up Nation: Israeli Innovation and Ingenuity</i> Dinner with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moshe Friedman, CEO and Founder, KamaTech</li> <li>▪ Alon Metrikin-Gold, Partnerships Manager, MobileODT</li> <li>▪ Cpt. Omer Yuval, Innovation Officer, IDF Air Force</li> </ul> - at Lumina
9:30 PM	Depart for hotel
10:00 PM	Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

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**Friday, August 18, 2017**

7:45 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:15 AM Depart for Prime Minister's Office

9:45 AM Security check

10:00-11:15 AM Meeting with the Honorable Binyamin Netanyahu  
Prime Minister, Israel  
- at Prime Minister's Office

11:15 AM Depart

2:00 PM Check into the Scots Hotel

2:30-4:00 PM *Northern Border Concerns Part I: Lebanon and Hezbollah*  
Lunch with Lt.-Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
Northern Border Expert  
- at Pagoda

4:00 PM Depart

4:15-6:00 PM Survey of Magdala Archaeological Park

6:00 PM Depart, return to the hotel

7:30-10:00 PM *Welcoming the Sabbath on the Golan Heights*  
Friday night dinner with  
Dr. Cameron and Rinat Brown and family  
- at the hotel, Private Room

10:00 PM Overnight at the Scots Hotel

**Saturday, August 19, 2017**

8:00 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:30 AM Depart hotel

9:00-11:00 AM	<i>Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee</i> Survey of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount</li> <li>▪ Church of the Primacy of Peter</li> <li>▪ Capernaum – Jesus' Village</li> </ul>
11:00 AM	Depart
12:00-1:00 PM	Northern Border Concerns Part II: Syria Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria With Maj. (Res.) Ilan Shulman - at Kibbutz Ein Zivan
1:15 PM	Lunch - at Shifra's
2:30 PM	Depart for Tel Aviv
5:30 PM	Return to the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel
7:30-8:30 PM	The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it all Together Closing dinner - at the hotel
8:30 PM	Depart for the airport

**Sunday, August 20, 2017**

12:15 AM	DELTA #469 departs Tel Aviv (Senator, Senator's daughter, Joel Brubaker)
5:01 AM	DELTA #469 arrives New York/JFK (Senator, Senator's daughter, Joel Brubaker)
8:10 AM	DELTA #4022 departs New York/JFK (Joel Brubaker)
8:15 AM	AA #1153 departs New York/JFK (Senator Capito)
9:44 AM	DELTA #4022 Washington, DC (Joel Brubaker)
10:21 AM	AA #1153 arrives Charlotte (Senator Capito)
11:09 AM	AA #5420 departs Charlotte (Senator Capito)
12:11 PM	AA #5420 arrives Charleston, WV (Senator Capito)

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# United States Senate

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

August 4, 2017

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Capito:

This responds to your recent correspondence concerning an invitation you and your child received to travel to an educational seminar, in Israel, on August 13-20, 2017, sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF). AIEF certified to the Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) that it will pay the *necessary expenses*<sup>1</sup> related to the travel and that it is neither a lobbyist, nor lobbying firm, nor agent of a foreign principal, and it is not otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government. AIEF has also certified that it does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal and that no registered lobbyist will accompany you at *any point throughout your trip*.<sup>2</sup>

Based on information and materials available to the Committee, and assuming the actual travel and travel-related expenses conform to the information and materials you provided, it appears that the proposed payment or reimbursement of necessary expenses for this trip **may be accepted** under relevant Senate Rules and the Committee's *Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel*, so long as at the time of the payment or reimbursement, AIEF is neither a registered lobbyist nor lobbying firm under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, nor an agent of a foreign principal under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (and is not otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government), and provided the travel and all required documents are disclosed to the Secretary of the Senate in accordance with the provisions of Senate Rules 34 and 35. Necessary expenses may include travel expenses for the spouse or child of a Member if the Member determines that the attendance of the spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

Under Senate Rule 35, a Senator or officer who receives payment or reimbursement for necessary expenses related to fact-finding travel must disclose those expenses to the Secretary of the Senate by filing the completed *Senators and Officers Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses* (Form RE-3), along with a copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and all relevant attachments (e.g., the private sponsor's invitation and itinerary) **within 30 days of the conclusion of Privately-Sponsored Travel**.

<sup>1</sup> The term "necessary expenses" has a specific definition. See *Select Committee on Ethics' Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel – Glossary of Terms* at 8.

<sup>2</sup> The term "any point throughout your trip" has a specific definition. See *Select Committee on Ethics' Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel – Glossary of Terms* at 2.

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The Committee has determined that § 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that are classified as private foundations, as opposed to public charities, may not pay for transportation from the United States to a foreign country.<sup>3</sup> However, AIEF represented to the Committee that it is a § 501(c)(3) public charity, as opposed to a private foundation, pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.<sup>4</sup>

Please be advised that the United States Constitution prohibits the acceptance of any gift, including a meal, from a foreign government without the consent of Congress. In the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), Congress consented to the acceptance by federal government officials of: (1) gifts of minimal value and (2) travel or the expenses for travel taking place entirely outside the United States, from a foreign government (which includes those acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government).<sup>5</sup> The Senate has defined minimal value as \$100 or less. Further, pursuant to FGDA, there are certain reporting and procedural requirements that are imposed upon Members, officers, and employees who accept gifts from a foreign government. Please review the Committee's "Dear Colleague" letter of January 9, 2015 setting forth the items to be included in filing that report.

Finally, Senate Rule 34 requires a Member, on his or her Financial Disclosure Report, to make an annual disclosure of the receipt of payments or reimbursements under Senate Rule 35 from a private sponsor for officially-related travel expenses where, in the aggregate, travel expenses exceed \$390 from that sponsor during a calendar year. However, if a Member, officer, or employee properly reports the receipt of necessary expenses for such travel to the Secretary of the Senate within 30 days of the travel, as discussed above, the travel expenses need not be disclosed a second time on their Financial Disclosure Report.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee.

Sincerely,

Deborah Sue Mayzer

Deborah Sue Mayer  
Chief Counsel and Staff Director

**Enclosure:      Travel Checklist**

<sup>3</sup> See 26 U.S.C. § 4941 et seq. Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code broadly defines non-profit, charitable, tax-exempt organizations. These § 501(c)(3) organizations are then further defined or designated as “public charities” and “private foundations.”

<sup>4</sup> 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

<sup>5</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 7342.

[illegible]

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- Private Sponsor Certification - Page 1 of 4

**9. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

**I certify that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:**

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

**FOR**

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

## FORE

- ☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

**10. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

- 12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:**

**AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

AI EF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

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- 14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:**

**Please see attached.**

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15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Please see attached.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate	\$7,568.18 (Senator)	\$1,604 (Senator)	\$966	\$6,882.63 per person
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	\$6,113.08 (family guest)	\$118.50 additional (family guest)		Breakdown attached

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b) The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate participants about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

King David Jerusalem, Sheraton Tel Aviv, Scots Tiberias

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

Location and affordability

**ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାପତ୍ର ନମ୍ବର ୫୪୭**

- Please see attached.**

- |  | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses                       |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts | \$6,510.48              | \$1,604          | \$966         | \$6,039.38<br><br>Breakdown attached |

- b) The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

- The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate participants about the U.S.-Israel relationship.**

- King David Jerusalem, Sheraton Tel Aviv, Scots Tiberias**

- ### Location and affordability

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Please see attached

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Participants will fly business class on a commercial airline.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

n/a

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (You must include the completed signature block below for each travel sponsor.):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: 

Name and Title: Richard Fishman, Executive Director

Name of Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone Number: (202) 639-5233

Fax Number: n/a

E-mail Address: rfishman@alefdn.org

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)**  
**August 13-20, 2017**

**Addendum**

**2. Description of the Trip**

This seminar, which will be on the ground in Israel for six days, is specifically designed to explore foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship. Some of the key issues to be addressed include: the status of Iranian compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and Iran's continued malign regional activities; the impact of Syrian civil war along Israel's northern border; the internal political situations of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, the status of the peace process; and the expanded cooperation between the U.S. and Israel in fighting terrorism and proliferation.

The seminar will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials, as well as site surveys of the northern border with Lebanon and Syria, the southern border with the Gaza Strip, and the security fence. The seminar also aims to provide the political, historic, and religious context to the current conflicts and issues facing Israel and the region. It will explore the connection the three monotheistic religions have with the land and the influence this connection has on today's struggles. In addition to formal meetings and briefings, the trip provides experiential opportunities to help better understand the geographical complications, the security implications, and the historic root causes of the current conflicts.

**14/15. Sponsor Information**

Founded in 1990, the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) is the charitable organization affiliated with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby. The Foundation's fundamental purpose is to maintain and further the relationship between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF works to inform the public about Israel and the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship, to expand public awareness about issues affecting the Middle East, and to encourage participation in public affairs, especially by young people. AIEF grants support innovative and award-winning programming that educates a wide array of participants, including college students, members of Congress and their staff, and political professionals.

AIEF funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, students, political consultants, as well as religiously motivated pro-Israel Christian, Latino and African American leaders. These trips to Israel are among the most critical programs AIEF supports on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Participants have the opportunity to meet with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. government officials, Palestinian Authority officials and leading academics and journalists. For many of the participants, who make important decisions impacting Israel and the Middle East, these trips are their first, and sometimes, only exposure to the country.

## **16. Other Expenses**

**Security: \$2,125 per person**

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

**Speaker Fees: \$1,375 per person**

-Honoraria for guest speakers

**Travel Agency Commission: \$337.50 per person (SINGLE) \$180.75 per person (DOUBLE)**

-AIEF pays an upcharge of 21% per room per night, split between our U.S. and Israeli travel vendors

**Tour Guide: \$562.50 per person**

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

**Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$412.50 per person**

**Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$400 per person**

**Room Rentals: \$375 per person**

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

**Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border: \$125.00**

**Transportation for Contract Staff and Speakers: \$75 per person**

**Entrance Fees: \$112.50 per person**

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

**Other: \$62.50 per person**

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

**Photography: \$62.50 per person**

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer. A photographer is also present for meetings with dignitaries.

**Tips: \$14.38 per person**

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.\

## **21. Per Diem**

The expenses for lodging and meals are within the international per diems for Israel. The estimate for meal expenses includes the cost for meals, snacks, and water. It does not include alcohol, as we do not pay for alcohol per Senate ethics rules.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
August 13 - 20, 2017**

**Itinerary**

**Sunday, August 13, 2017**

5:00 PM	Depart Washington, DC (Joel Brubaker)
6:28 PM	Arrive New York/JFK (Joel Brubaker)
10:37 PM	Depart New York/JFK (entire delegation)

**Monday, August 14, 2017**

4:15-6:00 PM	Arrive Ben Gurion Airport Transfer to Jerusalem Check in to the King David Hotel
7:30-8:00 PM	<i>Welcome and Orientation</i> With Becky Strapp - at Touro
8:00-9:30 PM	<i>The Pulse of Israel Today</i> Dinner with David Horovitz Founding Editor, <i>The Times of Israel</i> - at Touro

**David Horovitz**

David Horovitz is the founding editor of Times of Israel, the leading current affairs website in Israel. Mr. Horovitz is a talented and insightful speaker and is known for providing an illuminating synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli voters.

9:30-10:00 PM	<i>Welcome to Jerusalem</i> Walking Survey of the Old City
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**Jerusalem**

Throughout its 4,000 year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all recent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, from the Oslo Accords to the Camp David Summit to the

Taba negotiations, and in the most recent talks under the auspices of the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

10:15 PM                      Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Tuesday, August 15, 2017**

7:45 AM                      Breakfast is served  
- at the King David Hotel

8:00-9:00 AM              *The Jewish Connection to the Land of Israel*  
Breakfast with Dr. Einat Wilf  
Senior Fellow, Jewish People Policy Institute  
Adjunct Fellow, Washington Institute for Near East Policy  
- at the King David Hotel

9:15 AM                      Depart hotel

9:30 AM-12:30 PM      *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem - Part I:*  
*The Historic and Holy Basin*  
Guided Survey of the Old City of Jerusalem  
▪ Church of the Holy Sepulcher  
▪ City of David  
▪ Western Wall

**Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin**

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

### **The City of David**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consumed an enormous amount of time and manpower of members of consecutive American Administrations as well as members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of the future of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of this conflict.

The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sides in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years.

At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Additionally, Palestinian leadership has denied in their official statements the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

12:30 PM                      Depart

12:45-2:00 PM              *The State of Israeli – Palestinian Authority Relations*  
Lunch with Dr. Tal Becker  
Principal Deputy Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
- at Anna

### **The State of Israeli – Palestinian Authority Relations**

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Most recently, in July 2013, Secretary of State John Kerry helped initiate a round of direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. The peace talks conclusively dissolved when the Palestinian political party Fatah signed a unity deal with the terrorist group Hamas.

Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team, including in the last round of talks mediated by US Secretary of State John Kerry. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges and is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

2:00 PM                      Depart for Yad Vashem

2:30-4:00 PM      *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*  
Wreath Laying Ceremony and Guided Visit  
-at Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

**Yad Vashem**

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

4:00 PM              Return to the hotel

7:00 PM              Depart for dinner

7:15-9:15 PM      *Regional Overview*  
Dinner with Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Amos Gilad  
Immediate past Director, Policy and Political-Military Affairs  
The Ministry of Defense  
- at the King David Hotel

9:15 PM              Overnight at the King David Hotel

**Wednesday, August 16, 2017**

8:15 AM              Breakfast is served  
- at the King David Hotel





border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

11:30 AM Depart

12:00-1:00 PM *Confronting Tunnel Warfare*  
Visit the opening of a terror tunnel  
Israel Defense Forces Briefing

### **Terror Tunnels**

During the 2014 Gaza conflict, Hamas used underground tunnels to terrorize Israel's civilian population. On April 16, 2016, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) discovered a new two-kilometers-long, concrete tunnel from the southern part of the Gaza Strip into Israel, near the border between Israel and Egypt. The discovery was made possible through the use of a new tunnel detection technology. Given the similar threats facing the United States, including on the Korean Peninsula, the U.S.-Mexico border and in various locations in the Middle East, this breakthrough technology holds significant potential for the United States.

1:00 PM Depart

1:30-2:30 PM *United States-Israel Cooperation in Missile Defense*  
Lunch with Ari Sacher, Systems Development  
Rafael Advanced Defense Systems  
-at Space

2:45 PM Depart

4:15-5:15 PM *Regional Intelligence Assessment*  
Meeting with Maj. Gen. Herzl Halevi  
Head, Israel Defence Forces Intelligence Directorate  
- at the Ministry of Defense

5:30 PM Depart

6:00 PM Return to the hotel

7:15 PM Depart for Dinner

7:45-9:45 PM      *Start Up Nation: Israeli Innovation and Ingenuity*  
Dinner with Israeli entrepreneurs  
- at Spoons

### **Start-Up Nation**

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

10:00 PM              Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

### **Friday, August 18, 2017**

7:30 AM              Breakfast on own  
- at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

8:00 AM              Depart hotel

8:45-9:30 AM      *Israel's Narrow Waistline - Strategic Concerns*  
Briefing at the Alfei Menashe overlook

### **Alfei Menashe**

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "silicon valley", as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

9:30 AM              Depart

9:30-11:30 AM      En route briefing:  
*The Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee*

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### **The Ziv Medical Center**

The Ziv Medical Center is situated in the heart of Israel's rural northern landscape and provides health care services and treatment for the north's ethnically and religiously diverse population. Since February 2013, Israel has taken in Syrians wounded in the course of the civil war currently being waged in that country. Many are treated at a field hospital on the border, where soldiers and paramedics of the IDF on the Israeli Golan Heights give them initial first aid and life-saving care. The Syrian wounded then either return to Syria, or are taken to an Israeli hospital to receive further treatment. Ziv Hospital is one such hospital, and has treated nearly five hundred victims of the Syrian conflict. At Ziv, the Syrian wounded, including children, civilians and militants alike, are provided with the best possible care from Israeli physicians using state of the art medical equipment. Although Israel and Syria have been in a state of war for decades, the Israeli doctors and staff at Ziv provide humanitarian aid for the wounded without regard for the patients' political or military affiliation. These efforts have been supported by The Israeli Health Department, which has spent well over 5 million dollars treating the wounded.

12:30 PM                      Depart

1:30-2:30 PM              *Is War in Syria Winding Down?*  
Lunch with Dr. Jonathan Spyer  
Director, Rubin Center, Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (IDC)  
- at Ha'Bokrim

2:30 PM                      Depart

2:45-3:45 PM              *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria*  
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria  
With Maj. Ilan Shulman  
- at Ein Zivan

3:45 PM                      Depart

4:45 PM                      Check into the Scots Hotel

6:45 PM                      Depart for Dinner

7:30-9:30 PM              *Welcoming the Sabbath on the Golan Heights*

### **The Sabbath in Israel**

Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80 percent of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings.

9:30 PM                      Depart for the hotel

10:00 PM                      Overnight at the Scots Hotel

**Saturday, August 19, 2017**

7:45 AM                      Breakfast on own at the hotel

8:15 AM                      Depart

8:30-10:15 AM              *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
Survey of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee

- Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount
- St. Peter's Church
- Capernaum – Jesus' Village

**Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee**

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided tour and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic tours in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

10:15 AM                      Depart

10:15-12:30                En Route Briefing:  
*Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis*

**Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis**

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the

influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally; as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

12:30 PM                      Lunch en route

1:30-2:30 PM              *Exploration of the Dead Sea Region*  
- at Hod Hotel

### **Dead Sea Region**

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.

2:45 PM                      Depart

4:45 PM                      Check into King David Hotel

7:30-9:00 PM              *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it all Together*  
Closing dinner  
- at the King David Hotel

## Closing Dinner

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways, and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered throughout the week.

9:00 PM Depart for the airport

**Sunday, August 20, 2017**

**12:15 AM** **Depart Tel Aviv (entire delegation)**

**5:01 AM** Arrive New York/JFK (entire delegation)

**8:10 AM** **Depart New York/JFK (Joel Brubaker)**

**8:30 AM** **Depart New York/JFK (Senator Capito)**

**9:44 AM**                  **Arrive Washington, DC (Joel Brubaker)**

**11:04 AM**      **Arrive Atlanta (Senator Capito)**

12:25 PM Depart Atlanta (Senator Capito)

**1:48 PM**      **Arrive Charleston, WV (Senator Capito)**

**Russell, Lauren (Capito)**

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**From:** Julie Peretz <jperetz@aiefdn.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 12:25 PM  
**To:** Russell, Lauren (Capito)  
**Subject:** Please Join Us: AIEF Israel Seminar August 13-20, 2016



**AMERICAN ISRAEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

March 3, 2017

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Capito,

We would like to invite you and your spouse or family guest to join us for an educational seminar in Israel sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF). This trip will depart on Sunday, August 13, 2017 and return on Sunday, August 20, 2017.

The trip will explore critical foreign policy and national security challenges facing both Israel and the United States and how the two countries are cooperating in dealing with these issues. The seminar will include discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, and leading academics and journalists. The program will also include:

- Briefings on the status of Iranian compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and Iran's continued malign regional activities;
- In-depth discussions on the Israeli and Palestinian political climate and prospects for peace, as well as the political changes taking place in the region;

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